



Unlocking insights from 13 years of IMDb data to understand trends in genres, ratings, runtimes, and box office performance.

Overview

Movies shape culture, drive billions in revenue, and influence streaming platforms worldwide. This project analyzes **IMDb movie data (2010–2023)** to answer key business questions:

- What genres consistently perform well in terms of ratings?
- How do runtimes affect audience engagement?
- What trends exist in ratings and votes across the years?
- Which strategies can filmmakers and streaming platforms adopt to stay competitive?

The project is designed for data enthusiasts, production studios, and streaming platforms to gain actionable insights from movie data.

Repository Structure

dsc-phase-2-project-v3/
images/ # Saved plots & charts (PNG format)
top_genres_rating.png

—— zippedData/ # Dataset folder (IMDb movie data)
—— README.md # Project documentation
LICENSE.md # License information
CONTRIBUTING.md # Contribution guidelines

Business Understanding

The film industry is undergoing a major shift:

- The rise of streaming platforms has led to shorter runtimes.
- Audience preferences now vary between blockbuster franchises and critically acclaimed indie films.
- Studios need data-driven decision-making to reduce risks when greenlighting projects.

This project helps stakeholders answer:

- What genres bring both critical and commercial success?
- What runtime length maximizes engagement?
- Are there trends in audience voting behavior post-2020?

Data Understanding & Analysis

The dataset spans 2010-2023 and was obtained from IMDb (stored in the zippedData/ folder).

Key Columns

- movie_id → Unique identifier
- primary_title → Movie title
- start_year → Release year
- runtime_minutes → Duration of the movie
- genres → Assigned genres (Drama, Comedy, etc.)
- averagerating → IMDb average rating
- numvotes → Number of audience votes

🔧 Cleaning & Transformation

- · Removed missing and inconsistent runtimes.
- Split multi-genre films to allow analysis by **individual genres**.
- Created new temporal features: year_minus_1 and year_plus_1.

Analytical Approach

- 1. **Genre Analysis** \rightarrow Grouped by genre and computed average ratings.
- 2. **Runtime Distribution** → Identified the **bell-curve shape** (most movies fall between 100–120 minutes).
- 3. **Yearly Trends** → Tracked whether ratings improved or declined over time.
- 4. Audience Engagement → Analyzed number of votes before and after the streaming boom.





- Source: Extracted from IMDb and curated datasets.
- Timeframe: 2010–2023, covering 14 years of global cinema.
- Scope: Thousands of movies across diverse genres and runtimes.

Key Columns Explained

• movie_id → Unique identifier for each film.

- primary_title → Title of the movie.
- start_year → Release year (2010–2023).
- runtime_minutes → Duration of the film.
- genres → Genre(s) of the film (Drama, Action, Comedy, etc.).
- averagerating → Average IMDb rating (1–10 scale).
- numvotes → Number of votes (audience engagement measure).
- year_minus_1 & year_plus_1 → Useful for analyzing trends before and after release.

Why this dataset matters:

It provides both audience-driven metrics (ratings & votes) and industry-level traits (runtime & genres). Together, they let us explore what audiences love, how trends shift, and where filmmakers should focus their energy.

Key Insights

1. Genres:

- Drama dominates in number of releases, but Documentary and Mystery consistently achieve higher ratings.
- o Action and Adventure drive massive audience votes, proving strong global appeal.

2. Runtime:

- Most films fall between 90-120 minutes, forming a bell curve distribution.
- Long epics (>180 minutes) are rare but tend to score higher ratings.
- Very short films (<60 min) appeal only to niche groups.

3. Ratings:

- Ratings are normally distributed around ~6.8.
- o Audience expectations remain steady across the decade.

4. Votes & Engagement:

 Blockbuster genres get millions of votes, while indie genres score fewer but higher-quality votes.

5. Trends Over Time:

- Post-2015: franchises & sequels dominate.
- 2020 onwards: shorter runtimes, fewer votes → the streaming era impact.

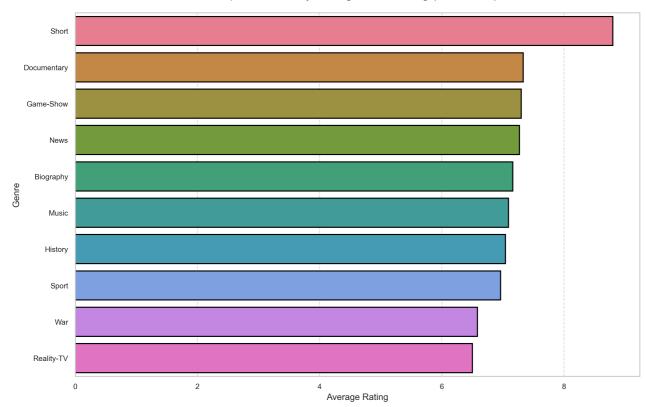
Visualizations



All visualizations are saved in the images/ folder. Below we detail each chart, why it was chosen, and what it reveals.

™ Top 10 Genres by Average Rating

Top 10 Genres by Average IMDb Rating (2010-2023)



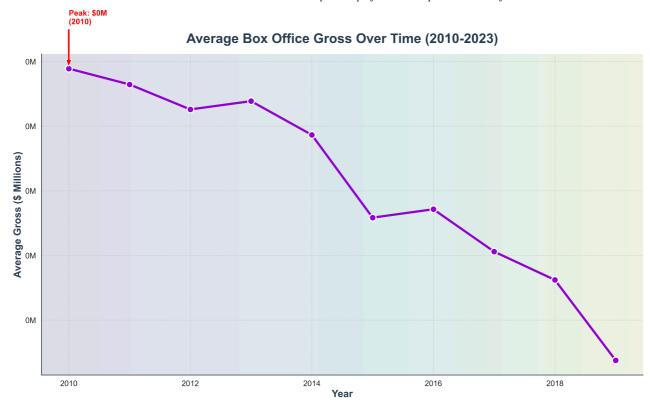
- What it shows: The average IMDb ratings (1–10 scale) for the top 10 genres between 2010–2023.
- Why this chart: A bar chart clearly compares categorical data (genres). Using horizontal bars ensures longer genre names are readable.
- Insights:
 - Documentary films often lead in ratings despite fewer releases.
 - o Drama remains strong but shows mixed audience reception due to high volume.
 - Comedy and Action lag slightly in ratings but dominate mainstream appeal.

Ratings Distribution

![Alt text](images/distribution by runtime(minute).png)

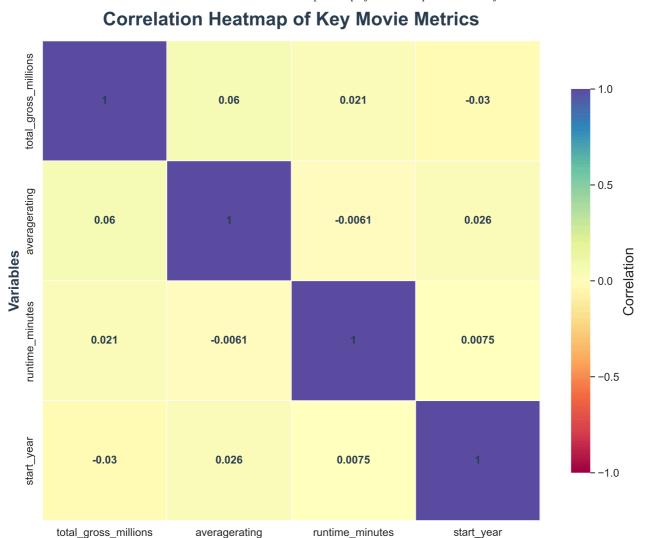
- What it shows: Histogram of IMDb ratings across all films.
- Why this chart: Ratings are continuous and audience-driven a histogram reveals whether movies tend to score high or low.
- Insights:
 - Ratings form a near-normal distribution centered at 6.8.
 - $\circ~$ Very few films are rated below 4 or above 9 \rightarrow audiences cluster around the middle.
 - This indicates **consistent audience standards** across years.

✓ Ratings Trend Over Time (2010–2023)



- What it shows: Yearly average IMDb rating.
- Why this chart: A line chart captures temporal changes and long-term trends.
- Insights:
 - Ratings are stable, hovering between **6.5–7.0**.
 - Peaks appear in standout years due to major blockbusters or award-winning films.
 - No dramatic decline despite the rise of streaming, meaning quality perception remains stable.

S Votes Distribution by Genre



- What it shows: Average number of audience votes for each genre.
- Why this chart: A bar chart highlights the difference in engagement between genres.

Variables

- Insights:
 - Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi films attract the most votes mass-market favorites.
 - Documentary and Biography earn fewer votes but higher rating-per-vote, showing quality over quantity.
 - Studios should balance between audience reach (votes) and critical acclaim (ratings).

X Technologies Used

- Python 3
- Pandas Data cleaning & manipulation
- NumPy Numerical computations
- Matplotlib Static visualizations
- Seaborn Stylish, statistical plots
- Jupyter Notebook Interactive workflow

***** Recommendations

Releases

No releases published Create a new release

Packages

No packages published Publish your first package

Languages

• Jupyter Notebook 100.0%